Mazzio-Manson, James

From: Tavlarides, Mark

Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 10:42 AM

To: Tavlarides, Mark

Subject: Bahrain Supports U.S. Evacuation Efforts in Afghanistan

Good morning,

BGR Group represents the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain. I wanted to share recent praise by the U.S. government for Bahrain's support in facilitating a safe and effective evacuation of U.S. citizens and Afghans from Kabul, Afghanistan through Bahrain.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken <u>thanked</u> the Government of Bahrain for its humanitarian support on Friday, and <u>spoke</u> <u>with</u> Bahrain's Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid al-Zayani on Sunday.

On Sunday, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin <u>expressed his gratitude</u> to Bahraini Crown Prince Salman bin Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for enabling rapid and critical support. Additionally, Bahrain's Gulf Air was the first flight of Afghan refugees to land in the U.S., landing at Dulles Sunday night.

Please let me know if you have questions, or if you would like to speak further with the Embassy of Bahrain about their efforts to facilitate a safe and effective evacuation.

Thanks, Mark

Mark J. Tavlarides

Principal, International

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